North Shore Area Branch, Massachusetts American Association of University Women



# ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY North Shore Area News

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## Special points of interest:

- Join us on January 29 at 1:00 pm for the presentation on the "Status of women in Iran"
- Join the Boston branch dinner meeting at Legal Seafood, Copley Place for a presentation on Sex trafficking locally

Newsletter
Deadline:
February 15, 2011
Email articles and
comments to:
nwadsworth@
salemstate.edu

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#### "A Presentation on Status of Women in Iran"

By Yvette Villa-Barry

On **Saturday**, **January 29**th **1:00 to 4:00 pm**., at the Beverly Library, our newest AAUW member, **Sanaz Raoufi**, will share a presentation with real life experiences, about the Status of Women in Iran. You should not miss this event if you wish to participate in a personable, and enlightening conversation with one of our very own members. Yvette will facilitate the conversation.

Sanaz came to the United States from Iran, 5 years ago. She grew up in the capital of Iran, Tehran, with her mom, twin sister and younger sister. He family remains in Tehran. She has been married to a pediatric dentist who is also from Iran, for 6 years and is currently living in Needham. She has a B.S in Electrical engineering and worked for 5 years as an instrument engineer and lead engineer in one of the biggest oil and gas company in Iran. She also received a MBA from Nova Southeastern University, Florida in 2008 with a 4.0 GPA.

Join us in this conversation. We hope to see you at 1PM at the Beverly Library (32 Essex St) this Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP by Friday to Yvette at <u>yvilla78@hotmail.com</u> or 978-409-2639. Light refreshments will be served.

There will be a follow up event that will highlight the status of women in Cuba and Israel as well as the need to find common ground among different cultures and religious beliefs on March 5th. Linda, Pat, Yvette, Sanaz, Liz and Patricia will be actively involved with the framing of this conversation, with perhaps each of us sharing a short perspective or vignette. See next page.

#### Holiday Gift Giving by AAUW members

Dear Fellow Branch Members,

Thank you so much for your donations to the Arlington Community Trabajando holiday party held December 5th. It was quite a success. Your cash donations, toys, and gift cards were a very helpful and meaningful contribution for a community with so little. We had 250 people in attendance and many, many children. We had a couple of Board Members dressed as elves, City officials, dance contests, a children's professional dance team, pizza, pinatas, and a DJ. It was a ton of fun!!! AAUW was thanked over the loud speaker as well.

Thank you for your gift giving spirit. Yvette Villa-Barry



### **NCCWSL**

By Juliana Silva

In May of 2009 AAUW gave me the amazing opportunity to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington DC. At the conference, I met many incredible young women who like me, were working their way through college. It was very inspiring to meet strong, independent women. Women who are fighting to make a difference on their campuses, as well as in their communities. I came back from Washington DC energized, and ready to use what I had learned in the conference. I joined the executive board of the International Student Association as the treasurer. It was quite a challenge. We organized many events to raise cultural awareness on

campus. The biggest event, the Cultural night, consisted of performances and foods from various countries, and had an attendance of over 400 people.

The knowledge I acquired at the conference has definitely made a difference in my life. I gained confidence and self motivation to inspire others. I have made wonderful friends, who I am still in touch. I am eternally grateful to AAUW for the tremendous opportunity. I have had the pleasure to meet a few of the incredible women behind AAUW, and they are a magnificent source of inspiration. I must thank them for their support and commitment to empowering women. All the work AAUW has been doing has touched the life of many women in the world. Today, I am a proud member, and hope to

be able to contribute to the changes that are to come.



#### Boston Branch's dinner meeting on Sex Trafficking Locally

Dear Friends,

I hope you all received the notice about the Boston Branch's dinner meeting on February 1st at Legal Seafood in Copley Place Mall. There will be a speaker from a local group, All Hands In, on sex trafficking on the local level. This is not something that just happens in third world countries; it is endemic globally.

If anyone would like to attend I am

happy to carpool from the North Shore, perhaps meeting at the North Shore Mall. Please RSVP to Helen Schwickrath at <a href="mailto:swicky@hotmail.com">swicky@hotmail.com</a> and let me know if you would like to carpool. We have invited the new members who joined at our November conference and hope to engage them more fully in AAUW.

Looking forward to seeing you all on 1/29 at the Beverly Library for Sanaz's

presentation and discussion and again on the 1st of February. We have two excellent programs giving us the opportunity to expand our knowledge and to reach out to women in need.

Hope you're all able to enjoy the snow day. I hope our upcoming programs will not be impeded by more storms!

Liz Fragola AAUW-MA State President

#### Second "Global Women" conversation

By Patricia Ho

"Our second "Global Women" conversation will be held on Saturday, March 5, 10:00 am at a venue TBD. Linda Britt, Pat Gorton, Liz Fragola and Patricia Ho will reflect on their respective AAUW trips to Cuba and Israel. They will invite group participation as they share

their perspectives on the roles of women in those societies and their power in bridging political conflict and ethnic stereotypes.

This conversation will build upon our shared insights gained during the January 29 event hosted by Sanaz Raoufi and Yvette Villa-Barry, who will focus on Islam and Women in Iran. Please join us as we consider how our global lives are intertwined. As always, there will be absolutely wonderful refreshments."